

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 003548
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: IO/UNA:BJSHARP

APPROVED BY: IO/UNA:AFHOLLOWAY

S/S-O JETOBIN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 003548

EXDIS FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG FROM UNA

FOL TEL SENT ACTION CAIRO SECSTATE PARIS INFO JERUSALEM
FROM TEL AVIV DTD 05 JAN 1978 QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 0178

EXDIS

PARIS FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE SECRETARY AND

ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, IS, EG

SUBJ: ARRANGEMENTS FOR MILITARY COMMITTEE AND POLITICAL
COMMITTEES MEETINGS IN CAIRO AND JERUSALEM

REF: (A) CAIRO 82, (B) TEL AVIV 123, (C) CAIRO 385

1. RE MILITARY COMMITTEE MEETINGS. REF A OBVIOUSLY
CROSSED WITH REF B. I TOOK OCCASION OF MEETING
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JANUARY 5 WITH BEGIN AND DAYAN TO CONFIRM ISRAELI
DESIRES IN REGARD TO TIMING. BEGIN SUPPORTED POSITION
TAKEN EARLIER BY WEIZMAN AND SAID THAT ISRAEL WOULD
LIKE TO HAVE THE TWO MEETINGS BEGIN SIMULTANEOUSLY ON
THE 15TH. INCIDENTALLY, WEIZMAN HAS BEEN SICK WITH
INFLUENZA FOR SEVERAL DAYS AND IS STILL NOT BACK TO
WORK. HE CLEARLY WOULD NOT BE PHYSICALLY READY TO

MEET ON THE 9TH IN ANY EVENT.

2. RE POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETING IN JERUSALEM. I TOLD BEGIN AND DAYAN THAT WE WOULD HAVE FOR THEM PROBABLY TOMORROW THE EGYPTIAN COUNTERPROPOSALS FOR THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE AGENDA. BEGIN ASKED US TO TRY TO FIND OUT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FROM THE EGYPTIANS WHO WOULD BE THE RANKING MEMBERS OF THE EGYPTIAN DELEGATION, SPECIFICALLY WHETHER ANYONE OF MINISTERIAL RANK BESIDES KAMEL WOULD BE COMING. BEGIN SAID WRYLY THAT IT COULD BE VERY HELPFUL TO HIM POLITICALLY HERE TO HAVE THE ANSWER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. (HE WAS REFERRING TO THE BEHIND-THE-SCENES STRUGGLE WHICH HAS BEEN GOING ON WITHIN THE CABINET OVER THIS QUESTION.) BEGIN'S IDEA OF HAVING SHARON AS DAYAN'S DEPUTY FOR THE ISRAELI DELEGATION HAS CREATED GREAT PROBLEMS WITH THE OTHER COALITION PARTNERS. I SUSPECT HE WOULD BE HAPPY TO LEARN THERE WILL BE ONLY ONE PERSON OF MINISTERIAL RANK IN ORDER TO MAKE IT EASIER TO RESOLVE HIS OWN PROBLEM HERE. BUT IN ANY CASE, HE WOULD BE GRATEFUL TO KNOW WHO THE RANKING MEMBERS WILL BE. AND WITH RESPECT TO TV AND PRESS COVERAGE HERE, DAYAN SAID THEY WOULD BE ANXIOUS TO KNOW SOME IDEA ABOUT NUMBERS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF THE PROBLEM OF HOTEL SPACE.

3. RE KAMEL'S CONTINUED WORRIES ABOUT CONFERENCE SITE
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(REF C), ISRAELIS HAVE NOW MADE DEFINITE DECISION TO MOVE CONFERENCE TO JERUSALEM HILTON. SPACE AT VAN LEER INSTITUTE WAS INADEQUATE, AND SECURITY LESS SATISFACTORY. SINCE EGYPTIAN DELEGATION WILL ALSO BE HOUSED AT HILTON, THIS SHOULD PUT HIS CONCERN TO REST. WE ARE ASKING FOR URGENT ADVICE FROM SECRETARY WHETHER HE WISHES US TO TRY TO REPEAT TRY TO MOVE US DELEGATION TO HILTON FROM KING DAVID. LEWIS UNQTE CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 Jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMITTEE MEETINGS, COMMITTEES, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 Jan 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE003548
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IO/UNA:BJSHARP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780011-0017
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780190/aaaacyjz.tel
Line Count: 102
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c48c01e6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 CAIRO 82, 78 TEL AVIV 123, 78 CAIRO 385
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 May 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3816121
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARRANGEMENTS FOR MILITARY COMMITTEE AND POLITICAL COMMITTEES MEETINGS IN CAIRO AND JERUSALEM
TAGS: PGOV, IS, EG
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c48c01e6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014